IFW

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

KELPE

Examiner:

Walker, Zakiya Nicole

Serial No.:

10/721,699

Group Art Unit:

3672

Filed:

November 25, 2003

Docket No.:

VERA.030D1

Title:

MACRO ASSISTED CONTROL SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR A

HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILLING MACHINE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this communication is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 241, 2004.

13 total pages.

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated August 24, 2004, please consider the following remarks. The claims are presented in accordance with the "revised format" of 37 CFR § 1.121 for the Examiner's convenience. No amendments have been made to the claims.

Authorization is herewith given to charge Deposit Account 50-0996 (VERA.030D1) all requisite fees, should any be incurred by this Amendment and Response.

Amendments to the abstract are presented on page 2 of this paper.

The pending claims are presented in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper for the Examiner's convenience.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.